OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Out of 400 million hectare metres of total precipitation over the country, the utilisable water resources has been assessed as 114.22 million hectare metres out of which 69 million hectare metres is surface water and 45.2 million hectare metres is ground water.

(b) The surface water and the groundwater resources are not competitive but compliment to each other. Therefore, no such studies have been made. The aim is to make conjunctive use of surface and groundwater.

(c) Does not arise.

Bank erosion on the upstream of Dibrugarh

4632. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by Government to stop bank erosion on the upstream of Dibrugarh due to fury of Brahmaputra river floods almost every year;

(b) the details of amounts spent by Government for the floods control schemes approved for Dibrugarh in the last five years, year-wise details and in the current year so far;

(c) whether any flood control project upstream of Dibrugarh city has been approved by Government, if so, the details thereof and what is the progress of the project so far;

(d) whether Government have any proposal to start river services between Calcutta/Guwahati and Dibrugarh and there by revive Dibrugarh river port which was a major river thermal till early 50s for movement of cargo between Calcutta and Dibrugarh and vice versa, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if answer to (d) above be in negative the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) Two schemes viz. Construction of Dyke connecting Maijan with Hillodhari Dyke and Strengthening of Land Spur at Mathula costing together Rs. 75.60 lakh were constructed by the Assam Government during the years 1990 and 1991 to protect Dibugarh from the fury of Brahmaputra river Another scheme for protection of Nagaghuli Maizon area upstream of Dibrugarh town estimated to cost Rs. 10.74 crore has been approved. It's construction has not been started.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal to extend the existing cargo service between Calcutta and Guwahati upto Dibrugarh for want of cargo offering in the region.

विदेशी नागरिकों द्वारा बरगी बांध का निरीक्षण

4633. **श्री शिव प्रसाद चनपुरिया** : क्या **जल संसाधन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कुछ विदेशी पत्रकारों/नागरिकों को बरगी बांध का निरीक्षण करने की अनुमति प्रदान की गई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितने विदेशियों ने गत दो वर्षों के दौरान बरगी बांध के जलमग्न क्षेत्र का दौरा किया है और जलमग्न क्षेत्र के विस्थापितों से संपर्क किया है ; और

(ग) ये विदेशी किन-किन देशों के नागरिक हैं ?

शहरी विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और जल संसाधन मंत्रालय राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री पी०के० थुगन) : (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है तथा सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।